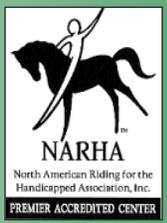




# The Mounted Eagles' Mane Tales



Therapeutic Horsemanship

Volume 5 ♦ Issue 3 ♦ July-September 2007

## It's Time to WALK-N-ROLL So They Can Ride



Mounted Eagles will be hosting their 5th annual **Walk-N-Roll** fundraising event on Saturday September 8, 2007! This is our largest fund raising event so please join us and take part in the 6.2 mile route along the Paul Bunyan Trail, starting at the Nisswa Chamber of Commerce and ending at the Trailside Park Gazebo in Pequot Lakes. There is a minimum pledge of \$25 per participant ages 9 yrs and older. Ages 8 and under may participate without collecting pledges but if they do, that's even better. There will be a special gift for all participants who collect \$100 or more in pledges. There will be prizes for the team with the most participants, the team with the most pledges collected, the Adult with most pledges collected and the Youth (18yrs & under) with most pledges collected.

Walk Registration begins at 2:00 pm

Walk n' Roll event starts at 3:00 pm Nisswa Chamber "Elvis" will be there to kick off the Walk-N-Roll with a little bit of Rock-N-Roll. So Come One ~ Come All!

Walkers, runners, bikers, rollerblades, wheelchair riders, skateboarders and strollers.

### Walk-N-Roll So They Can Ride!

An "All You Can Eat" Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction will be held at the Pequot Lakes American Legion in conjunction with the Walk-N-Roll event. The dinner and auction are open to the public and the hours are 3 pm - 7 pm. "Elvis," David Alan Pundt of KLKS and a Scandinavian Folk Music Band will provide live entertainment throughout the afternoon. Cost for the dinner will be \$8 for ages 13 and older and \$5 for ages 6-12 yrs. 5 years old and younger are free! Tickets can be pre-purchased.

For more information about the event, registering, or donating, please contact Lynn Fairbanks at 963-3936 or Aggie Stroot at 568-5883.

Major Sponsors at the time of this printing are: Baxter Lions Club, Consolidated Telephone Company, Crow Wing Recycling, Grand Casino Mille Lacs, Grattan Healthcare, H & H Builders & Supply, Pine Motors, Thrivent Lutheran Services Caring Abounds Communities, Pierz Lions Club, Lakeland Agency & Pequot Lakes Physical Therapy Services.

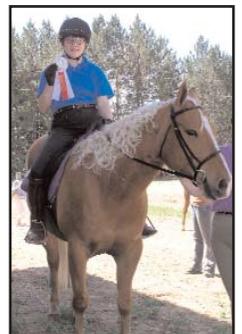


## Four Winds HorseCenter Hosts Benefit Horse Show

Four Winds Horse & Human Learning Center located in southeast Brainerd hosted its first Dressage Schooling Show on May 12th. This was a Benefit Show for Mounted Eagles and all proceeds from the show were donated directly to the expansion of services for the Mounted Eagles program. 41 Dressage riders participated in over 90 classes on Saturday, May 12th. Among those riders were two of Mounted Eagles' graduates. Hanna Jankovich and Courtney Gunderson proudly displayed their equestrian skills atop their favorite mounts; skills that began when Hanna and Courtney were introduced to the Mounted Eagles therapeutic horsemanship program years ago. Participating in the program not only increased their love for horses and equine activities but also helped each of these young ladies overcome some of their own personal challenges.

Toni Wasilensky and Kris Winum, owners of Four Winds, LLC, are avid supporters of the Mounted Eagles program. Four Winds offers training, boarding, riding lessons and specialty equine-related programs geared to people of all ages. Four Winds Horse Center is located at 13860 Shawkia Drive, Brainerd MN and you can reach Toni or Kris at 218.824.6773 or 877.704.6773 or via e-mail at [toni@fourwindshorsecenter.com](mailto:toni@fourwindshorsecenter.com) or [kris@fourwindshorsecenter.com](mailto:kris@fourwindshorsecenter.com) You're invited to stop by any time for a tour.

Mounted Eagles is extremely grateful to Four Winds for their continued support of our center's mission and vision.



Hanna J., a graduate of Mounted Eagles therapeutic riding program, displays her 2nd place ribbon she won riding Winny at the Four Winds Benefit show

## Rider of the Third Quarter

If you were to walk into the clubroom of the Mounted Eagles therapeutic horsemanship program on Tuesday evenings you would most likely see a young lady waiting patiently for her turn to ride. While she waits she might recite all of the holidays and the dates on which they occur during the year, tell you when someone at her group home's birthday is, or just hum a little tune. That would be 27-year-old Kelly Woudsma, who has been selected as the Mounted Eagles' Rider of the 3rd Quarter of 2007. Kelly has been riding with the Mounted Eagles for 7 years and has made lots of progress over this time. Her overall physical balance has improved tremendously but the most noticeable improvement is in her ability to focus and remain quiet when instructed. One of the challenges that Kelly faces in her life is the inability to control sudden, very loud vocal and/or physical outbursts. When Kelly approaches the mounting block to begin her lesson, Abby, her faithful horse leader and lesson companion, instructs her to sit gently and quietly as she mounts Bill, the "gentle giant" of the Mounted Eagles' horse family. Bill is a Morgan/Belgian cross horse and is known for his huge stature and gentle nature. He carries Kelly and his other riders gently and securely during their lessons. They have faith and trust in him and this teaches them that

they too can have faith and trust in others. Kelly listens attentively to Abby as they proceed through course patterns and if she does have a sudden outburst Abby brings her back to focus by gently speaking "Kelly, you must be quiet when riding." Kelly listens to Abby's every word and almost always responds immediately, another lesson learned in trusting someone. Kelly has learned that if she doesn't comply, she doesn't get to ride and you can clearly see by the smile on her face that she loves to ride. She has learned to guide her horse and make him go wherever the course might lead them. Kelly recently rode three classes in the Annual Participant Horse Show and won a ribbon in each class. She shows them off with pride and when she leaves the barn she is already looking forward to next week when she'll be back to ride Bill again. Congratulations, Kelly, on all of your accomplishments and being selected as our Rider of the Quarter! We're really proud of you!



Kelly riding Bill and Abby leading

## A Girl's Love for Horses and Mounted Eagles Pays Off!

Sarah Fairbanks has watched her brother, Justin, ride the Mounted Eagles horses for about 8 years. She has seen him evolve from sitting awkwardly on the back of the horse with very little balance to riding his horse, Bill, independently. Her love for horses has grown even deeper as she has watched them help Justin



and other M.E. riders overcome some of the physical challenges they face in their every day life. Sarah decided that she wanted to help the horses that help her brother, Justin. Sarah came up with an idea of a fundraiser that would hopefully bring in some money to help pay for the care of the Mounted Eagles' horses. Sarah called her event "Loose Change Roundup." She decorated quart and pint jars and handed them out to the families of M.E. participants and asked them to deposit all of their loose change that was just lying around the house into the jars and bring it to the barn with them every other week. She created four teams and families could choose which team they wanted to compete on. The teams were named after the M.E. horses: Jazzy Dancers, Thunder Bills, Velvet Peppers and Angel Aces. The contest ran for a period of eight weeks and the loose changed rolled in. The winning team was Angel Aces. At the end of the contest date, Sarah's fund raising idea had netted \$2,107.82! Sarah is finally old enough to volunteer with the program now so she will be helping "hands on" with the riders and the horses, but she will forever be remembered as our little girl with the big heart! Thank you, Sarah, from the bottoms of our hearts and hooves!

### Thank you to Grant Funders

Mounted Eagles is very appreciative to the following organizations for funding Grant Requests in support of our program during calendar year 2007: Brainerd Jaycees Ice Fishing Extravaganza \$1,000; St Joseph's Foundation \$2,000; Initiative Foundation \$4,000; Wells Fargo Foundation \$50. We also would like to thank all civic organizations, businesses and individuals who sponsor specific fund raising events and make individual contributions to our program throughout the year. We couldn't make it without the generosity shown by each of you!

## 2007 Calendar of Events

Tuesdays - Month of September	Eat at Applebee's and 10% of your bill will be donated to M.E.
September 8	Walk-N-Roll So They Can Ride + Spaghetti Dinner & Silent Auction
October 15	Phone-A-Thon
October 25	Volunteer Training
November 11	Non-Profit Day at Westgate Mall
November 14-17	NARHA Annual Conference
November 15	Last Day of Riding for 2007
December 14	2007 Rider's Banquet
January 3	2008 Riding Season Begins

Watch [www.mountedeagles.org](http://www.mountedeagles.org) for updated 2007 Calendar of Events

## Welcome to Our Family

Riders: Lynn B, Lily N, JoAnn S, Gary S, Shyanne C  
Volunteers: Katie W, Wendy Y, Laura S

## Fund Raisers

### Can Collection Site

Crow Wing Recycling has placed a can collection trailer in the parking lot of Jack's Place, which is located on State Hwy 25. So pack up all your cans and drop them off at Jack's as you go by. A special "thanks" to the management of Jack's Place for allowing us to use their parking lot as a collection site.

### Like to Shop On-line ???

Now you can enjoy online shopping and donate to Mounted Eagles at the same time. Just go to <http://www.giveline.com>, make your purchases and select Mounted Eagles as your charity. If you are unfamiliar with Giveline, please visit [www.giveline.com](http://www.giveline.com) to see how they benefit the community. They currently support over 14,000 organizations. Having our organization listed on Giveline does not cost anything; they simply send us checks as donations are made. Thanks for supporting Mounted Eagles!

### Phones

We're still collecting unused, inactivated cell phones, so save them up and contact Aggie if you need them picked up. If you have or know of a business that would be a good collection site, we have nice boxes that we can bring you to collect them in. Just let Aggie know and she will bring you a box. We'll come by and pick up the phones.

### Note Cards, BookMarks, Gift Tags

Did you know that Mounted Eagles has its own line of Note Cards, Book Marks and Gift Tags? Jan Moran, a ME volunteer, master gardener and photographer, has created a line of these items especially for a fund raising items for the Mounted Eagles. The items reflect photos from Jan's flower garden, scenes of local lakes activities, and horses that are used in the Mounted Eagles' program or from area barns. These items are available for sale at the Four Winds Horse Center Retail store and on-line at [www.mountedeagles.org](http://www.mountedeagles.org) They make great gifts and are good to have on hand when you need to say something "special." Call Aggie (568-5883) for more info.

### Opening for Part-Time Position with Mounted Eagles

Mounted Eagles has an opening for a Part-Time Fund Raising/Communications Coordinator. This position requires an average of approximately 45 hrs per month and it is a paid position. Please contact Aggie Stroot at 218.568.5883 or 888.828.9920 or via e-mail at [info@mountedeagles.org](mailto:info@mountedeagles.org) if you are interested in learning more about this position and its qualifications.



## Happy Birthday

July		August		September	
Toni W	Malissa M	Abby K	Levi R	Nathan L	Jim J
Anshel B	Kris W	Jared D	Rosea W	Steve L	Andrew O
Kate L	Sam W	Gary S	Brittini T	Laura S	Hanna J
Zac L		Katie W	Hannah J	Kelly W	Missy P
		Tiffany C	Sarah F	Mary H	
		Nick B	Howard M,		
		Jenny A	Wendy N		
		Katie R			

### The Mounted Eagles' Mane Tales is a Quarterly Publication of Mounted Eagles, Inc.

Aggie Stroot, Executive Director; Susie Baillif, Sr. Instructor; Mary Hammer, Volunteer Director

Board of Directors: Aggie Stroot, Chairperson; Staci Grattan, Secretary;

Mary Hammer, Kris Nelson, Terry Prettyman, Lynn Fairbanks, Theresa Grow, Missy Giles, Jolene Parks, Brian Kohn, Marcia Mehr.

Editor/Contributor: Aggie Stroot • Newsletter Layout: Linda Dahl, Dahl Graphic Design

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Postage & Fees Pd.  
Pequot Lakes, MN  
Permit No. 5

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